

DELTA PROTECTION COMMISSION

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To: Delta Protection Commissioners
From: Margit Aramburu, Executive Director
Subject: Report on First Year Activities

Meetings

The Delta Protection Commission first met in January of 1993. In the last year the Commission has met once a month, rotating the meetings in different Delta communities for the first eight months and settling into a regular meeting place and time in September. The Commission meets on Thursday evenings in Walnut Grove, Sacramento County. A calendar of meetings through April, 1994 is available.

Staff

Margit Aramburu was selected as Executive Director at the May 27 meeting and started work immediately. A full time office staff person, Debra Eddy, was hired in August. Staff is being supplemented with graduate student assistants and interns/volunteers. Richard Frank, Supervising Deputy Attorney General, continues to serve as legal counsel to the Commission. The staff of the Department of Conservation is providing personnel and administrative support.

Office

The Commission offices have been established in Walnut Grove, Sacramento County, and are open 8 to 5, five days a week. Office furniture and equipment have been obtained at no State expense, by using surplus furniture and equipment and new equipment provided by the San Joaquin County District Attorney's office as part of a lawsuit settlement.

Subcommittees

Three Subcommittees have been created. The Subcommittee on Administration and Operations oversees those functions (Commissioners McGowan, Fargo, Ferreira, and Yates). The Subcommittee on Budget and Finance has reviewed budget development and long-term funding options (Commissioners McCarty, Salmon, Sekelsky, and Chairman Torlakson). The Subcommittee on Legislation is monitoring State legislation and developing priorities for legislation to assist the Commission's program (Chairman Torlakson).

and Commissioners Curry and Johnson). A temporary Subcommittee assisted in the interview process for the Executive Director (Commissioners Broddrick, McCarty, Mello, Patterson and Chairman Torlakson).

Citizens Advisory Committees

The three Citizens Advisory Committees described in the Delta Protection Act--Agriculture, Environment and Recreation--have been appointed by the Commission. A Mission Statement was adopted and the first meeting was held in October. Rosters of the Committees and a calendar of meetings through May, 1994 is available. Meetings are public and are held at the Jean Harvie Community Center in Walnut Grove, Sacramento County.

Regulations

The Commission has adopted two sets of regulations and forwarded them to the Office of Administrative Law for review. The Regulations include: Conflict of Interest Regulations and Regulations Addressing Appeals to the Commission.

Planning Program

The Commission adopted a planning program at the August meeting. The planning program will include preparation of a series of background reports and then preparation of a Draft Plan in May. The Commission must hold three public hearings on the Draft Plan prior to adoption by July 1, 1994.

Briefings

The Commission has received briefings on the following topics:
The Delta Protection Act by Senator Patrick Johnston

Delta Resources by Professor Robert Twiss of U.C. Berkeley

Department of Conservation's Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program by Michael Byrne, Deputy Director

Marine Law Enforcement by Sergeant Gerald Rector of San Joaquin County

Department of Boating and Waterways Activities by Frank Dowd

Delta Levees by Curt Schmutte and Mary Johannes, of Department of Water Resources; Ed Littrell, Department of Fish and Game; and Dr. Lynne O'Leary, Army Corps of Engineers

Agriculture by Alex Hildebrand; Eric Vinson of Soil Conservation Service; Topper Van Loben Sels of North

Delta Conservancy; Robert McLandress of California Waterfowl Association; and Ken Trott of Department of Conservation

Parks and Recreation by Dave Smith of Delta Chambers; Bob Doyle of East Bay Regional Park District; Dave Nelson of Department of Parks and Recreation; and Commissioner Bill Curry of Department of Boating and Waterways

Floods and Flooding by James Coe of Department of Water Resources and Frank Hauck of San Joaquin County Office of Emergency Services

Long Term Management Strategy by Steve Goldbeck of San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission

Governor's Wetlands Policy by Will Shafroth of the Secretary of Resources' Office

Bay Delta Oversight Council by Greg Zlotnick

Valley Care/Delta Care Program to provide winter habitat on private ag lands; Jack Payne and Mark Steele of Ducks Unlimited.

Boat Tour

A boat tour of portions of the southern Delta was held in early October, arranged through the Port of Stockton.